The Member next prayed for the registry of the following *kari* lands in the names of converts from depressed classes, namely, the *kari* lands on the north-eastern side of the Vembanad lake ; the lands lying close to the bank from Alleppey to Thanneermukkam in the Shertalay taluk ; 453 acres included in Survey No. 30/30 in Prakkattu *pakuthi* and similar other lands in the Ambalapuzha *pakuthi* and the several *kari* lands in the Vaikam, Vechoor, Kaipuzha and Kaduthurithi *pakuthies*. The Ennakkachira in the Manchadikkara *pakuthi* and Kullanchirachal in the Vadayar *pakuthi* should also be similarly registered to his people.

In conclusion, the Member prayed that one respectable gentleman with sympathy towards the backward classes be specially appointed in each Revenue Division to attend to the registry of lands in the names of depressed classes in pursuance of the new G. O. and to render such other help to them as was possible and that the Government should periodically obtain reports from those officers and see for themselves what progress was being made.

Dewan's reply.—The Member's representation will be carefully considered. Special reports will be called for about the progress in registry.

11. Desirability of issuing agricultural loans to the Cardamom ryots on a nominal interest.

Mr. T. K. Alagiri Raja (Member, Devicolam Taluk) spoke at length about the heavy indebtedness of the cardamom ryots owing to the failure of crops and the enhancement of *tharavila* to Rs. 25 per acre. It was, as a result of frequent representations and conferences, that the rules dated the 28th Karkadakom 1080 were passed regarding cardamom lands. Against the spirit of those rules, *tharavila* was raised from Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 per acre in 1088. The increased rate was made applicable even to the lands applied for from 1081 to 1087, for the mere reason that *pattas* for those lands were granted only subsequent to 1087. The penal assessment realized was not refunded, though the assessment was subsequently cancelled. The realization of *tharavila* in 9 instalments did not benefit many who under the old system had already paid up two or three instalments. The appeals and petitions to the Government and the Commissioner, Devicolam, and the representations at the Assembly during the past four years did not bring about any redress of their grievances. The cardamom cultivators had consequently become heavily involved in debt. They were not able even to meet the cost of cultivation and hence they allowed their lands to lie waste. To remedy such a state of things, the Member suggested—

(1) that the Government should grant loans to the cardamom ryots at low rates of interest and realise the same from the produce of their lands in the course of 10 years as was done in British India; and

(2) that the provisions of the Cardamom Rules as they were promulgated on the 28th Karkadakam 1080 should be rigidly enforced, more especially with reference to matters relating to the cultivation of grass lands, grazing of cattle, felling of trees for the improvement of cardamom cultivation and for house-building, the rates of *tharavila*, payment of kist, shooting of destructive animals and the jurisdiction of the Forest Department in cardamom areas.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

12. Desirability of partitioning the Peermade Taluk into two taluks with Kanjirapalli as the Head-quarters of one of them.

Mr. Thomman Dominic (Member, Peermade Taluk) said that the subject had been brought up by the Peermade Member at the last session of the Assembly and that, in spite of the strong recommendation of the Commissioner, Devicolam, the partition had not been sanctioned by Government. The area of the Peermade taluk was 660 sq. miles the whole of which had been surveyed and comparatively developed. Hundreds of applications for registry of *puduval* lands were pending disposal for a long time. Very little progress was made in the registry of Sirkar Devaswom lands. The work of the Peermade Tahsildar was more than what one officer

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could possibly do. The head-quarters of the Peermade taluk was at Peermade, 32 miles distant from the western border. The area of the five western *pakuthies*, namely, Manimala, Cheruvalli, Chirakadavu, Kanjirappalli and Poonjar, which were in low country, was 210·41 sq. miles. There were no native houses or habitations at Peermade and the place was at an elevation of 3,000 ft. The courts and other Sirkar institutions of the five western *pakuthies* had their transactions with the treasuries of Changanacherry, Kottayam or Meenachil in preference to Peermade owing to the inaccessibility of the latter place. The Member, therefore, prayed that the five western *pakuthies* mentioned above might be separated from the Peermade taluk and formed into a new taluk with Kanjirappalli as its head-quarters. The proposal would not entail any additional expenditure to Government, as, with the formation of a new taluk and the appointment of a Tahsildar with First Class Magisterial powers, the First Class Magistrate's Court at Kanjirappalli and the Stationary Magistrate's Court at Mundakayam could be abolished. The Member prayed that speedy effect might be given to his proposal.

Dewan's reply.—There is some force in what the Member says. His representation will be considered.

(2) Forest Revenue.

13. Desirability of throwing open for cultivation portions of the Reserves in the Ranni and Kumpazha *pakuthies*.

Mr. S. Perumal Pillai (Member, Chengannur Taluk) said that, until recently, the chief means of livelihood of the people of Ranni and Kumpazha *pakuthies* was the cultivation of portions of Government waste lands and forests. With the reservation of forests under the Forest Regulation in those *pakuthies* and the consequent prohibition of cultivation within them, the condition of the ryots became very miserable. Even the cultivation of lands outside reserved forests was prohibited by the department. The Member prayed that the Eata forests included within the reserved forests in the Ranni, Kumpazha and Pathanamthitta *pakuthies* might be allowed to be cultivated by the permanent residents of those *pakuthies*.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

14. Need for dissafforesting the Thenkotam, Manianthra and Manakad Reserves for purposes of cultivation.

Mr. Mathai Pyli (Member, Thodupuzha Taluk) said that the subject was brought up at the last session also. There were not enough lands suitable for cultivation in the taluk. The unregistered lands still available were rocky and unfit for cultivation. He, therefore, prayed that the Thenkotam, Manianthra and Manakad Reserves, which lay adjoining registered holdings and which did not fetch any appreciable revenue to the Government, might be registered in the names of the people of the taluk on levy of a fixed rate of *tharavila*.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

15. Desirability of applying the Cardamom Rules passed in 1080 to the grazing of cattle and the felling of trees in the Cardamom Hills.

Mr. T. K. Alagiri Raja (Member, Devicolam Taluk) represented that the forest subordinates forced the hill tribes in the Cardamom Hills, known as the Mannans and Muthuvans, into subjection on the pretence of Sirkar work and prevented them from doing their cultivation or earning their wages by cooly labour. They also placed all sorts of obstacles in the way of the hill tribes getting any lands registered in their names. In the case of the Anjanad ryots also, the Forest subordinates interfered similarly and prevented them from resorting to *punja* cultivation in the hills, which they were doing formerly. The Member, therefore, prayed for the following relief measures:—

(1) that stringent orders be issued to the Forest Department not to interfere, in any way, with the hill tribes and the Cardamom ryots in their cultivation ;

(2) that every facility be afforded to the hill tribes for obtaining lands on *pattom* ;

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